

[No Report.]

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

DECEMBER 31, 1860.

Read twice, and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

JANUARY 3, 1861.

Reported back with amendments, viz: Strike out the words within [brackets,
and insert those in *italics*; ordered to be printed.

Mr. BINGHAM, on leave, introduced the following bill:

A BILL

Further to provide for the collection of duties on imports.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That whenever, by reason of unlawful obstructions, combina-
4 tions, or assemblages of persons, it shall become impracticable,
5 in the judgment of the President, to execute the revenue laws
6 and collect the duties on imports in the ordinary way in any
7 collection district, it shall and may be lawful for the President
8 to direct that the custom-house for such district be established
9 and kept in any secure place within some port or harbor of
10 such district, either upon land or on board any vessel; and, in
11 that case, it shall be the duty of the collector to reside at such

12 place, and there to detain all vessels and cargoes arriving within
13 the said district until the duties imposed on said cargoes by
14 law be paid in cash, [according to existing laws,] *anything in*
15 *the laws of the United States to the contrary notwithstanding*
16 *ing*; and in such cases it shall be unlawful to take the vessel
17 or cargo from the custody of the proper officer of the customs
18 unless by process from some court of the United States ; and
19 in case of any attempt otherwise to take such vessel or cargo
20 by any force or combination, or assemblage of persons, too
21 great to be overcome by the officers of the customs, it shall
22 and may be lawful for the President of the United States, or
23 such person or persons as he shall have empowered for that
24 purpose, to employ such part of the land or naval forces, or
25 militia of the United States, as may be deemed necessary for
26 the purpose of preventing the removal of such vessel or cargo,
27 and protecting the officers of the customs in retaining the
28 custody thereof.